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23. (amended) A composition of claim 1, further comprising pharmaceutically acceptable additives and ingredients selected from the group consisting of hair conditioners, panthenol, calcium pantothenate, colorants, fragrances, fragrance modifiers, vitamin E, penetration modifiers, surfactants, cosmetic agents, fatty acids and fatty acid esters, herbal extracts, henna, oils, emulsifiers, wetting agents, sunscreens, and anti-irritants.

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25. (amended) A composition of claim 1, wherein said non-carbomeric thickening agent comprises an organic thickening agent which is a polymer.

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28. (amended) A composition of claim 27, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of crosslinked copolymers of acrylic acid, dimethicone copolyols, acrylic/acrylate copolymers, polyacrylamide, ethylene/sodium acrylate copolymer, acrylamide/sodium acrylate copolymer, sodium acrylate/vinyl alcohol copolymer, sodium polymethacrylate, sodium polystyrene sulfonate, povidone, polyquaternium compounds, polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene oxide, and poloxamers.

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36. (amended) A gelled composition comprising greater than 3% minoxidil, a pharmaceutically acceptable solvent, and a solvent-tolerant carbomer, wherein said minoxidil is substantially solubilized in said composition.

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42. (amended) A composition of claim 36 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable solvent is selected from the group consisting of alcohols and polyols.

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- 52. (amended) A composition of claim 36, further comprising a neutralizing agent.
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- 56. (amended) A composition of claim 36, wherein said solvent is present in said composition in an amount of at least about 20%.

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- 61. (amended) A composition of claim 36, further comprising pharmaceutically acceptable additives and ingredients selected from the group consisting of hair conditioners, panthenol, calcium pantothenate, colorants, fragrances, fragrance modifiers, vitamin E, penetration modifiers, surfactants, cosmetic agents, fatty acids and fatty acid esters, herbal extracts, henna, oils, emulsifiers, wetting agents, sunscreens, and anti-irritants.
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- 62. / (amended) A composition comprising;

from greater than about 3% to about 8% of minoxidil;

from about 30% to about 80% of a polyol;

from about 10% to about 50% of an alcohol;

from about 0.01% to about 50% of a non-carbomeric polymer;

from about 0% to about 3% of a neutralizing agent; and

water (qs); wherein said minoxidil is substantially solubilized in said composition, and said non-carbomeric polymer is other than hydroxypropyl cellulose.

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- 77. (amended) A composition of claim 62, wherein said non-carbomeric polymer is selected from the group consisting of alginates and salts, acacia, carrageenan, guar gum, karaya gum, locust bean gum, tragacanth, xanthan gum, carboxymethylcellulose and salts thereof, ethylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, cellulose, hyaluronic acid and salts thereof, and polydextrose.
- 78. (amended) A composition of claim 62, wherein said non-carbomeric polymer is selected from the group consisting of crosslinked copolymers of acrylic acid, dimethicone copolyols, acrylic/acrylate copolymers, polyacrylamide, ethylene/sodium acrylate copolymer, acrylamide/sodium acrylate copolymer, sodium acrylate/vinyl alcohol copolymer, sodium polymethacrylate, sodium polystyrene sulfonate, povidone, polyquaternium compounds, polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene oxide, and poloxamers.
- 79. (amended) A non-gelled composition consisting essentially of minoxidil, a thickening agent, and a pharmaceutically acceptable solvent, wherein said minoxidil is substantially solubilized in said composition, and said composition is not in the form of an oil-in-water equalsion.



84. (amended) A composition of claim 83, wherein said polymeric thickening agent is selected from the group consisting of alginates and salts, acacia, carrageenan, guar gum, karaya gum, locust bean gum, tragacanth, xanthan gum, carboxymethylcellulose and salts

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thereof, ethylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, cellulose, hyaluronic acid and salts thereof, and polydextrose.

85. (amended) A composition of claim 83, wherein said polymeric thickening agent is selected from the group consisting of crosslinked homopolymers of acrylic acid, crosslinked copolymers of acrylic acid, crosslinked interpolymers of acrylic acids, dimethicone copolyols, acrylic/acrylate copolymers, polyacrylamide, ethylene/sodium acrylate copolymer, acrylamide/sodium acrylate copolymer, sodium acrylate/vinyl alcohol copolymer, sodium polymethacrylate, sodium polystyrene sulfonate, povidone, polyquaternium compounds, polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene oxide, and poloxamers.

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104. (amended) A composition of claim 79, further comprising pharmaceutically acceptable additives and ingredients selected from the group consisting of hair conditioners, panthenol, calcium pantothenate, colorants, fragrances, fragrance modifiers, vitamin E, penetration modifiers, surfactants, cosmetic agents, fatty acids and fatty acid esters, herbal extracts, henna, oils, emulsifiers, wetting agents, sunscreens, and anti-irritants.

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- 111. (amended) A method comprising topically administering a composition according to claim 1 to a region of hair loss on a patient.
- 113. (amended) A method comprising topically administering a composition according to